

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 11, 2009*

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I was unable to have my vote recorded on the House floor on Thursday, May 7, 2009, due to a family commitment. Had I been present, I would have voted in favor of H.R. 1728, the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act (Roll No. 242).

### JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

#### HON. MICHAEL A. ARCURI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 11, 2009*

Mr. ARCURI. Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise today in recognition of Jewish American Heritage Month. This month provides an important opportunity to reflect on the diverse ways in which Jewish Americans have contributed to the vitality of our nation and the preservation of our values.

The history of the Jewish American community begins in 1654, the year that 23 Jewish refugees from Recife, Brazil, fleeing persecution by the Portuguese Inquisition, arrived in the harbor of New Amsterdam, now known as New York. Although not the first Jews to come ashore in North America, they were the first to attain rights afforded to other settlers, including the right to own property, to erect a house of worship and to engage fully in the political process.

Free to worship and participate in civic life, the Jewish community in the United States has since thrived. Over the past 355 years, the achievements of Jewish Americans in areas such as science, law, literature, entertainment and public service have enriched our country and helped to propel our nation into the 21st century. Their deep devotion to faith and family has strengthened the fabric of our nation and set an example for all.

Madam Speaker, I call on all Americans to join this month in celebrating the history, culture and contributions of the Jewish American community.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 11, 2009*

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, May 7, 2009, I was unavoidably detained from voting on several amendments to, and final passage of, H.R. 1728, the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act.

Had I been present for those votes on the floor of the House of Representatives, I would have voted the following way: on Rollcall No. 238, I would have voted "aye"; on Rollcall No. 239, I would have voted "nay"; on Rollcall No. 240, I would have voted "nay"; on Rollcall No. 241, I would have voted "nay"; and on Rollcall No. 242, I would have voted "aye."

### HONORING THE HILL HEALTH CENTER ON THEIR 40TH ANNIVERSARY

#### HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 11, 2009*

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to join all of those gathered in celebration of the 40th Anniversary of the Hill Health Center—a private, non-profit community health center—the first of its kind in the State of Connecticut—which provides some of our most vulnerable citizens with the medical, dental, and behavioral health services. This is a very special milestone for this outstanding institution.

Too often, those children, families, and individuals most in need do not have access to critical healthcare programs and services. Now operating in eighteen locations and serving eight cities and towns, the Hill Health Center has become an irreplaceable asset to our community. Affiliated with both Yale-New Haven Hospital and the Hospital of Saint Raphael, the Center's staff includes internists, pediatricians, OB/GYNs, psychiatrists, psychologists, nurse practitioners, physician assistants, nurse midwives, registered nurses, LPNs, certified medical technologists, certified phlebotomists, social workers, nutritionists, registered dietitians, dentists and dental hygienists. The Center also operates six school-based health and dental centers. The Hill Health Center provides comprehensive, affordable care to hundreds of children and families—helping to ensure that every resident, regardless of age, income, or insurance coverage, has access to quality health care.

As we gather to celebrate this remarkable milestone, we also take a moment to reflect on the history of the Center and pay tribute to a man who was the driving force behind its success for more than thirty years; my dear friend and one of New Haven's most respected community leaders, the late Cornell Scott. His tireless efforts literally changed the face of healthcare in our community and across the nation. I had the privilege of working with Scotty over the years and I was in constant awe of his endless energy. Though he is no longer with us, Scotty continues to be an inspiration to so many and his vision, through the good work at the Hill Health Center—continues to make a real difference in the lives of others.

The Hill Health Center has and continues to be an invaluable resource to our community.

Providing programs ranging from outreach to the homeless to Birth-to-Three services for developmentally disabled children and from school-based health centers to a child and family guidance clinic, the Center's many services significantly increase the quality of life for countless individuals and families. As the first of its kind in Connecticut and one of the first in the country, the Hill Health Center has provided a model for care that has been successfully replicated and built upon across Connecticut and the nation.

The Center and its remarkable staff have made all the difference in our community and I have no doubt that they will continue in their good work for many years to come. I could not be more proud to rise today to extend my sincere congratulations to the Hill Health Center and all of its staff and supporters—both past and present—as they celebrate their 40th Anniversary.

### HONORING THE DISTINGUISHED PRIESTLY AND SACRAMENTAL SERVICE OF REVEREND MONSIGNOR EDWIN JAMES PETERSEN

#### HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 11, 2009*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the distinguished priestly and sacramental service of Reverend Monsignor Edwin James Petersen. After 50 years, Reverend Monsignor Petersen is retiring as Monsignor with the Diocese of Fresno, California.

Edwin James Petersen was born on November 8, 1933 in Los Angeles, California to Edwin Clarence Petersen and Maryellen A. Underwood. As a young man, Rev. Msgr. Petersen attended Randsburg Elementary School in Randsburg, California. His high school and college education was obtained at the Pontifical College Josephinum in Worthington, Ohio. Between 1961 and 1963, he attended Fresno State College in Fresno, California where he obtained his Masters of Art degree. In 1970, Edwin James Petersen was invited to study at the prestigious American College in Louvain, Belgium where he received his Masters of Art in Theology.

Rev. Msgr. Petersen has been appointed to serve many of our Valley churches beginning as early as June 1959 at St. Mary's in Cutler, California as an administrator. Shortly thereafter, he was appointed as an assistant at the Shrine of St. Therese's in Fresno where he spent several years working with the parishioners. Over the course of the next decade, Rev. Msgr. Petersen spent time as an administrator at Our Lady of Sorrows in Parlier, and then became a part of the parish families of St. Patrick's, Our Lady of Mercy, and Sacred Heart, all located in the community of Merced. Between 1974 and 2000 he was a valued and revered Pastor at Our Lady of Mercy, St. Anthony's of Padua and the Shrine of St. Therese.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.